## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN

SHERRY	KATZ-CRANK,	а	Michigar
resident,			

Hon.

Plaintiff,

v. Case No: 1:12-1335

KIMBERLY HASKETT, individually and in her official capacity as an investigator for the Indiana Secretary of State,

**CHARLIE WILLIAMS**, individually and in his official capacity as an investigator for the Indiana Secretary of State,

**TODD ROKITA**, individually and as former Secretary of State for Indiana,

**CARL BRIZZI**, individually and as former Prosecutor for Marion County, Indiana,

**MARY HUTCHISON**, individually and as Assistant Prosecutor for Marion County, Indiana,

**BARBARA CRAWFORD**, individually and as Former Assistant Prosecutor for Marion County, Indiana.

**THOMAS TRATHEN**, individually and as Chief Investigator for Marion County, Indiana,

#### and MARION COUNTY INDIANA,

Defendants.

BLANCO WILCZYNSKI, PLLC Orlando L. Blanco (P34480) Derek S. Wilczynski (P57079) Attorneys for Plaintiff 2095 E. Big Beaver, Ste 400 Troy, Michigan 48083 (248) 519-9000

#### **COMPLAINT AND JURY DEMAND**

NOW CO MES P laintiff, S herry K atz-Crank, by and through her counsel, BLANCO W ILCZYNSKI, PLLC, and for her Complaint against Defendants states as follows:

#### **GENERAL ALLEGATIONS**

- 1. Plaintiff, Ms. Katz-Crank, is an attorney who has practiced law in good standing in the State of Michigan for over 25 y ears. She was a partner with Miller Canfield, the largest and oldest firm in the State of Michigan, for over eleven years and served as General Counsel for one of the largest managers of schools in the country. She is also a former Special Assistant Attorney General for the State of Michigan. She graduated from Notre Dame Law School in the top 25% of her class and received a Bachelor's Degree cum laude from the University of Michigan.
- 2. In 2004, she performed legal services for Robert Nelms. Nelms was an experienced operator of cemeteries and funeral homes in New Jersey who was seeking to pur chase certain cemeteries and funeral homes in the states of Indiana, Michigan and Ohio. The sale was completed on or about December 22, 2004 with the assistance of approximately 7 different law firms, including Plaintiff.
- 3. Almost five y ears later, o n or ab out July 18, 2 009, Katz-Crank was wrongfully charged in Marion County Indiana with crimes which she did not commit, including five felony counts of theft of over \$10 0,000 each. In essence, Defendants contended that Plaintiff, through the provision of her legal services, aided and abetted Nelms in stealing the cemetery assets when she provided I egal advice to him in connection with his purchase of the cemeteries in December of 2004.

- 4. On or ab out J uly 18, 20 08, Plaintiff w as arrested and placed in a processing facility in the bowels of the Marion County jail in Indianapolis where she was handcuffed, subjected to a body cavity search, requested to take an AIDS test, received no food, no blanket, no cot or other place to rest, and was provided access to a single open toilet for the over 150 female inmates (with no toilet paper), received no sanitary access to water (only a water fountain) to clean her hands and remove her contact lenses.
- 5. Following her release, Plaintiff was subjected to over two and a half years of delay before receiving a trial by jury. The delays included repeated failures by the Prosecutor to turn over portions of the grand jury transcripts as required by Marion County's own rules and procedures and despite orders of the court to do so.
- 6. Despite the provision of evidence which substantiated her innocence and repeated requests from her legal counsel for specific information regarding the basis for the charges, no such information was forthcoming.
- 7. During the course of the trial, it was discovered that exculpatory evidence had not been produced or provided to the grand jury.
- 8. In addition, the investigators and prosecutors had a reasonable basis to believe that information provided by certain witnesses was false.
- 9. Despite the grand jury's specific request, prosecutors never provided the grand jury with jury instructions as to the material elements of the crimes with which Plaintiff was charged, instead, providing a copy of the annotated statute. In addition, the materials which were provided to the grand jury were not preserved as required by Marion County's own rules, policies, and procedures.

- 10. On December 7, 2010, two and a hal f years later, Ms. Katz-Crank was found innocent of all charges by a jury and the charges were dismissed.
- 11. These and other constitutional deprivations lead to unimaginable suffering by Plaintiff including the loss of her liberty, her ability to pursue her profession, loss of her businesses, and loss of reputation in her community and profession. In addition, she suffered from significant mental and physical ailments as a result of the wrongful allegations including major depressive disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder, and various physical disorders including two surgical procedures and hospitalizations.
- 12. In short, Plaintiff has suffered serious trauma as a result of Defendants' deliberate disregard, r ecklessness, a nd w illful and w anton deprivation of her constitutional and civil rights.
- 13. The political hubris exercised by the Indiana Secretary of State and the former M arion C ounty P rosecutor directly r esulted in the loss of her law firm, other business interests, her sa vings and pension, and financial losses of well over \$2.1 million.
- 14. In addition, Plaintiff continues and will continue to suffer from the wrongful accusations which are contained in defamatory press releases, articles on the internet, and other publications, including articles on the Indiana Secretary of State and Marion County Prosecutor's own websites. It is clear that Plaintiff's indictment was used as marketing material to support the political campaigns of Defendants for higher office without regard for the serious and permanent damage which it would impose up on Plaintiff and her family.

15. The fact that Katz-Crank was made a target of the Indiana Secretary of State and Marion County Prosectutors' investigation is rendered more remarkable by the fact that the F inancial Industry and Regulatory A uthority ("FINRA"), which is statutorily charged by the federal government with investigating these types of matters, found in an independent investigation that it was Katz-Crank's actions in reporting the alleged scheme to authorities in Michigan and Tennessee which ultimately lead to the investigation and conviction of the individuals responsible for the thefts, and ultimately the recovery of tens of millions of cemetery trust assets.

#### THE PARTIES

- 16. Plaintiff Sherry Katz-Crank is an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of Michigan. In addition, at all times relevant hereto Plaintiff has resided in Clinton County, Michigan.
- 17. Defendant Kimberly Haskett is an investigator in the Securities Division for the Secretary of State's Office for Indiana.
- 18. Defendant Charlie Williams is an investigator in the Securities Division for the Secretary of State's Office for Indiana.
  - 19. Todd Rokita is the former Secretary of State for Indiana.
- 20. Carl Brizzi was the former prosecutor for the State of Indiana County of Marion at all times relevant hereto.
  - 21. Mary Hutchison is an assistant prosecutor for Marion County.
  - 22. Barbara Crawford is a former assistant prosecutor for Marion County.
  - 23. Thomas Trathen is the Chief Investigator for Marion County.
  - 24. Marion County is a subdivision of the State of Indiana.

#### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

- 25. This Court has pendent jurisdiction over the state claims pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 1367. This Court has federal question jurisdiction over the parties pursuant to 42 U.S.C. Section 1983; 42 U.S.C. Section 1986; and 42 U.S.C. Section 1988(b).
- 26. This Court also has diversity jurisdiction over the parties pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 1332.
- 27. Venue is proper in the Western D istrict of M ichigan as Plaintiff is a resident of East Lansing, Michigan and the criminal charges which are the subject of this proceeding arose out of legal services which P laintiff p erformed in the S tate of Michigan at her offices in East Lansing, Michigan. The documents which formed the basis for the charges were drafted, f inalized, and at all t imes r elevant her eto were business records kept in the State of Michigan. The witnesses to this proceeding reside in Michigan, Indiana, New Jersey, and Connecticut and convenience does not favor one jurisdiction over another. The State of Michigan has an overriding interest in this matter to ensure that residents of Michigan, and specifically attorneys who are licensed in the State of Michigan and perform legal services in this State, are not subject to unlawful prosecution by investigators, prosecutors, and other state and local officials of another state who are exercising their authority and jurisdiction over persons and property residing in and located within the State of Michigan.
  - 28. The amount in controversy in this matter is more than \$75,000.00.

#### **COUNT I: MALICIOUS PROSECUTION**

29. Plaintiff hereby incorporates and restates the allegations in paragraphs 1 through 28 as if fully set forth herein.

- 30. Plaintiff S herry Katz-Crank has be en an attorney I icensed and in good standing in the State of Michigan since November of 1987. During this time and to this date she has never had a grievance or any disciplinary action taken against her by the State Bar of Michigan or any other state.
- 31. Katz-Crank was an attorney with two of the largest and oldest law firms in the State of Michigan for over 18 years. She was elected to partnership in the Labor and Employment Division of Miller Canfield in 1998. During that she developed a practice in the area of state regulation of cemeteries.
- 32. In 2 004, she op ened her own firm kn own as Corporate L egal C ounsel whose address was 4660 Hagadorn Rd. Suite 200, East Lansing, MI 48823.
- 33. In 2006, she formed a management company for the purpose of providing for the management of trust services to cemeteries which also was located at 4660 Hagadorn Rd. Suite 200, East Lansing, MI.

#### **THE "SMART" TRANSACTION**

- 34. For over eight years from approximately 1999 to 2007, Plaintiff provided legal r epresentation to 28 ce meteries in the S tate of Michigan. These properties constituted the largest holdings of privately owned and operated cemeteries in the State of Michigan.
- 35. In August of 2004, the then owner of the 28 Michigan cemeteries, Craig R. Bush, sold his interest in the 28 Michigan cemeteries to Clayton R. Smart, a purportedly wealthy oil and g as operator from Oklahoma, totaling approximately \$45 million (the "Smart Transaction"). At the time, Smart was a resident of the State of Oklahoma.

- 36. The sale from Bush to Smart was subject to the approval of the State of Michigan C emetery C ommissioner w ho determined that S mart was qualified by experience, financial means, and good character to own cemeteries in the State of Michigan.
- 37. In Michigan, cemeteries are required by law to place in trust a portion of the proceeds from the sale of each cemetery plot for the care and maintenance of the cemetery into the future. These trusts are generally known as "perpetual care trusts."
- 38. In Michigan, cemeteries are also required by law to place in trust the value of m erchandise purchased by ce metery consumers such as vaults and markers to ensure that the money is available to purchase the goods at the time that they are required. These trusts are generally known as "merchandise trusts."
- 39. Prior to the sale of the Michigan cemeteries from Bush to Smart there was over \$61 million in both the perpetual care and merchandise trusts.
- 40. Pursuant to Michigan law a trustee is selected by the cemetery owner to oversee the trust accounts.
- 41. The cemetery owner also selects an investment advisor to invest the trust proceeds so that they make an appropriate return or rate of interest.
- 42. In this case the investment advisor for the Michigan cemetery trusts was Mark Singer, Vice-President of Wealth Management in Pennsylvania for Smith Barney, a division of Citi-Group.
- 43. Plaintiff became acquainted with Mark Singer through her representation of the Michigan cemeteries.

#### THE "NELMS" TRANSACTION

- 44. In I ate 20 04, S inger r eferred R obert N elms, an owner and operator of funeral homes in New Jersey to Plaintiff in connection with the purchase by Nelms of cemeteries in the S tates of M ichigan, O hio and I ndiana, totaling approximately \$23 million (the "Nelms Transaction"). At the time, Nelms was a resident of the State of New Jersey.
- 45. Nelms retained Plaintiff to provide legal services in the State of Michigan to opine as to whether a cemetery trust could lawfully issue debentures.
- 46. Debentures are a corporate instrument whereby an entity may invest money.
- 47. Nelms acknowledged that Plaintiff was not licensed in the States of Ohio and Indiana and would have to obtain legal counsel in those respective states to provide a legal opinion.
- 48. Plaintiff w as paid at her nor mal hour ly r ate and su bmitted bi lls on a monthly basis.
- 49. Plaintiff's compensation in connection with her legal services totaled less than twenty thousand dollars.
- 50. Plaintiff did not negotiate the purchase of the cemeteries by Nelms or draft the Purchase Agreement.
- 51. Plaintiff had no ownership interest or any other interest in the purchase of the cemeteries by Nelms.
- 52. Plaintiff's legal se rvices in connection with the purchase by Nelms occurred in November and December of 2004. All legal services pertaining to Nelms

purchase were completed as of the date of the closing on or about December 22, 2004.

- 53. Plaintiff did not attend the closing and none of the sale or trust proceeds were ever placed in a trust or other account maintained by Plaintiff.
- 54. At no time in 2004 or 2005 did Plaintiff have any supervision or control over the cemetery trust proceeds from the purchase of the cemeteries by Nelms.
- 55. The closing occurred at a title company in Indiana and the trust proceeds were t ransferred from F orethought Trust and S avings to C ommunity T rust and Investment in Indiana as agreed between Nelms and the Meyers.
- 56. At the time of the purchase by Nelms there was approximately 22 million in the perpetual care and merchandise trust accounts in the States of Michigan, Ohio, and Indiana.
- 57. Following the closing by Nelms, Plaintiff continued her representation of the M ichigan ce meteries and was not involved in further matters with Nelms until approximately August of 2005.
- 58. In October of 2005, Singer and S mart contacted Plaintiff and requested that she at tend a meeting with the current trustee, Community Trust and I nvestment ("Community"), to investigate Smart's allegations that Community had mismanaged the Michigan cemetery trust accounts.
- 59. Ultimately, the Department of Financial Institutions for the State of Indiana concluded that Community Trust and I nvestment had mismanaged the cemetery trust accounts a nd r equired C ommunity t o di vest i tself o f all clients with cemetery trust assets.

#### THE FORMATION OF SFMC

- 60. At Smart's request, Plaintiff located another banking institution in Michigan that was willing to act as custodian of the Michigan trust funds. The banking institution was Citizens Bank headquartered in Flint, Michigan.
- 61. Citizens agreed to act as custodian of the Michigan trust funds for Smart and requested that Plaintiff provide legal services for the trusts and coordinate the accounting and auditing functions.
- 62. In D ecember of 2 005, P laintiff formed S ecurity F inancial M anagement Company ("SFMC") to provide these services to the M ichigan cemeteries. SFMC entered into an Agreement to act as trustee for the approximately \$60 m illion in Michigan cemetery trust assets for the 28 Michigan cemeteries then owned by Clayton Smart.
- 63. Smart directed S FMC to us e S mith B arney and financial adv isor M ark Singer to handle the investments for the Michigan cemetery trust assets.

# DISCOVERY AND REPORTING OF THE THEFT OF THE CEMETERY TRUST FUNDS

- 64. Less than a month after SFMC was appointed trustee for the 28 Michigan cemetery trusts, Katz-Crank discovered wire information that indicated that Smart had misappropriated substantial trust assets while the funds were under the control of the former trustee, Community Trust and Investment.
- 65. Katz-Crank immediately reported this activity to the Michigan Attorney General's office, the Michigan Cemetery Commissioner, the Ingham County Prosecutor, and the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, among others.

- 66. On Ja nuary 22, 200 6, K atz-Crank withdrew f rom her I ong st anding representation of the Michigan cemeteries.
- 67. In February of 2006, Katz-Crank also adv ised ex ecutives of C iti-Group/Smith Barney of her concerns.
- 68. Following K atz-Crank's report to the authorities, S FMC attempted to freeze all of the Michigan cemetery trust funds to avoid any further illegal activity.
- 69. Smith Barney, w ithout S FMC's authorization or a pproval, t erminated SFMC's accounts with Smith Barney and approved a transfer of the Michigan cemetery trust funds to INA fsb, a trustee from the State of Delaware where the misappropriation of the trust assets by Smart and Singer continued.
- 70. Following the termination of SFMC's accounts with Smith Barney, Katz-Crank again contacted the authorities to voice her concerns that Smith Barney's actions were furthering the depletion of the cemetery trust funds.
- 71. Mark Singer, the financial advisor from S mith B arney, was indicted in Indiana and Tennessee and is currently serving a seintence in Indiana for the commission of several felonies including fraud. In addition, he is currently awaiting trial in the State of Tennessee for similar acts.
- 72. Clayton Smart was also indicted and is currently serving a sentence in Tennessee for the commission of several felonies including fraud. He also pled guilty to similar acts in Michigan and pled guilty to federal charges of tax evasion.
- 73. FINRA, the regulatory body responsible for the oversight and regulation of broker dealers, f ined Smith B arney \$1.5 m illion dollars for, among other f ailures, inadequately supervising Mark Singer.

- 74. At the Michigan Attorney General's request, Katz-Crank agreed to testify against a number of the co-conspirators, including Smart and Bush.
- 75. As a result of Katz-Crank's testimony, the Ingham County Circuit Court froze \$22 million of Bush's assets which resulted in the recovery of over \$10 million in cemetery trust assets.
- 76. Katz-Crank did not request any form of immunity in ex change for her testimony and declined any form of reimbursement for her costs of testifying.
- 77. Nelms had also placed cemetery trust assets with SFMC and C itizens Bank. In late 2007, Katz-Crank discovered that Nelms was also under investigation and terminated his involvement with SFMC and Citizens Bank.
- 78. She then contacted Kim H askett of the Indiana Secretary of State Securities Investigation Unit and offered to provide assistance and respond to any inquiries which she may have. Haskett never responded to the telephone call and never requested any information or documentation from Katz-Crank or SFMC.
- 79. Instead, Haskett contacted Plaintiff's clients and prospective clients and advised that she was involved in illegal activity and that they should not continue to use her services.
- 80. In 2008, Nelms was charged with embezzling approximately \$22 million in cemetery trust funds, pled guilty, and was sentenced to eight years house arrest and community placement. Due to a plea bargain which included testifying against Plaintiff, Nelms will never spend a day in jail in Indiana.
- 81. Nelms also pl ed g uilty t o s imilar ch arges in M ichigan and will serve approximately eighteen months in jail.

- 82. K atz-Crank did ev erything within her power to pr event t he t heft of t he cemetery trust assets.
- 83. The Defendants w ere w ell aw are t hat P laintiff ac ted t o protect t he cemetery t rust asse ts and t o report su spected t heft by S mart and N elms upon her discovery of the underlying t hefts. D espite such knowledge, D efendants acted with deliberate indifference and/or with a callous or reckless indifference to the violation of Plaintiff's constitutional rights resulting in her arrest, detention, and an over two and a half years hiatus awaiting her jury trial and ultimate acquittal.
- 84. Among ot her t hings, Defendants' deliberate i ndifference t o P laintiff's constitutional rights is evidenced by the fact that they failed to advise the grand jury of the following:
  - A. They di d not pr ovide t he g rand j ury with ex culpatory ev idence which would hav e dem onstrated t hat P laintiff w as the individual who discovered and reported the theft of cemetery trust assets in Michigan and Tennessee.
  - B. They provided the grand jury with testimony which they knew was false.
  - C. Despite the fact that there was no evidence that Plaintiff engaged in a theft of the cemetery trust assets or exercised any control over the embezzled trust assets, Defendants requested that the grand jury charge Plaintiff with five felony counts of theft over \$100,000.
  - D. Defendants failed to advise the grand jury that at least four different law firms, seven attorneys, and 2 certified public accountants were involved in the purchase of the cemeteries by Nelms all of whom had equal or greater access to the details of Nelms purchase than Plaintiff and none objected to or reported any alleged theft to the authorities at the time of the purchase.
  - E. The payment to Plaintiff for legal services was supported by signed retention ag reements w ith nor mal ho urly rates and d etailed descriptions of the services rendered.

- F. Defendants contended that the use of debentures prepared by Plaintiff were illegal despite the fact that Defendants knew that identical debentures had been used by the previous cemetery owner in the State of Indiana for decades.
- G. Defendants did not disclose to the grand jury that an independent law firm was hired by Plaintiff to examine the use of the debentures and that an opinion was provided by that law firm approving the use of such debentures.
- H. The prosecutors failed to give the grand jurors standard instructions as to the elements of theft under Indiana law instead providing them with copies of the statute and volumes of case law to read so that they could determine for themselves what the elements of the offense were.
- The prosecutors failed to preserve copies of the materials that were provided to the grand jurors in violation of the specific policies and procedures established by Marion County.
- J. Despite o ffering t o pr ovide D efendants with co pies of t he documents which exponerated Plaintiff, the Defendants refused to review the documents or even consider them prior to her indictment.
- K. Despite prosecuting Plaintiff for the preparation of debentures in the purchase by Nelms of the cemeteries, the Defendants, as part of a proposed plea de al for Nelms, approved the use of the same, identical debentures and mortgages prepared by Plaintiff, in a proposed refinancing of the sale.
- 85. Defendants instituted a criminal proceeding against Planitff.
- 86. In instituting the criminal proceeding the Defendants, individually and collectively, acted maliciously in causing charges to be brought against Plaintiff which lacked probable cause.
- 87. Following a week long jury trial, Plaintiff was acquitted of all charges and was released from the custody of the Court.

88. As a di rect and proximate result of D efendants' actions, Plaintiff has suffered and will continue to suffer extensive financial, emotional and physical damage.

WHEREFORE, P laintiff r espectfully r equests that t his C ourt award h er su ch monetary r elief as will co mpensate h er f or t he act ual d amages incurred, mental, emotional, and physical damages which she has suffered, punitive damages, and her actual attorneys fees incurred as a r esult of this lawsuit, as well as such further and other relief as this Court deems appropriate.

#### **COUNT II: ABUSE OF PROCESS**

- 89. Plaintiff hereby incorporates and restates the allegations in paragraphs 1 through 88 as if fully set forth herein.
- 90. Defendants individually and collectively initiated and misused the grand jury process to bring unwarranted charges against Plaintiff in order to ruin her business and reputation.
  - 91. Defendants' use of the grand jury process was wrongful and improper.
- 92. Defendants' actions were malicious and evidenced a reckless and callous disregard for, and a deliberate indifference, toward Plaintiff's constitutional rights.
- 93. As a direct and foreseeable consequence of these deprivations, Plaintiff was arrested and deprived of her liberty, suffered economic loss, emotional trauma, physical harm, loss of privacy, and irreparable harm to her reputation.

WHEREFORE, P laintiff r espectfully r equests that t his C ourt award h er su ch monetary r elief as will co mpensate h er f or t he act ual damages incurred, mental, emotional, and physical damages which she has suffered, punitive damages, and her actual attorneys fees incurred as a result of this lawsuit, as well as such further and other relief as this Court deems appropriate.

## COUNT III: VIOLATION OF THE FOURTH AND FOURTEENTH AMENDMENTS IN VIOLATION OF 41 U.S.C. SECTION 1983

- 94. Plaintiff hereby incorporates and restates the allegations in paragraphs 1 through 93 as if fully set forth herein.
- 95. Defendants are "persons" as that term is defined in 42 U .S.C. Section 1983.
- 96. The D efendants, acting und er co lor o f st ate I aw, i ndividually and i n concert, i nitiated a nd continued cr iminal prosecutions against P laintiff on five f elony counts of theft of greater than \$100,000.
  - 97. There was no probable cause for the criminal prosecution of Plaintiff.
- 98. Defendants' actions were malicious and evidenced a reckless and callous disregard for, and a deliberate indifference to Plaintiff's constitutional rights.
- 99. As a result of her wrongful prosecution, Plaintiff was seized, arrested, and deprived of her rights under the Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments of the United States Constitution.
- 100. As a direct and foreseeable consequence of these deprivations, Plaintiff has suffered economic loss, physical harm, emotional trauma, loss of liberty, loss of privacy, and irreparable harm to her reputation.

WHEREFORE, P laintiff r espectfully r equests that t his C ourt award h er su ch monetary r elief as will co mpensate h er f or t he act ual d amages incurred, mental, emotional, and physical damages which she has suffered, punitive damages, and her actual attorneys fees incurred as a r esult of this lawsuit, as well as such further and other relief as this Court deems appropriate.

#### COUNT IV: VIOLATION OF 42 U.S.C. SECTION 1983—CONSPIRACY

- 101. Plaintiff hereby incorporates and restates the allegations in paragraphs 1 through 100 as if fully set forth herein.
- 102. Defendants are "persons" as that term is defined in 42 U .S.C. Section 1983.
- 103. Under color of state law, Defendants conspired and entered into express and/or implied agreements, understandings, or meetings of the mind among themselves to deprive Plaintiff of her constitutional rights by charging and prosecuting the Plaintiff on charges of felony theft of over \$100,000.
- 104. Defendants willfully participated in this illegal objective by various means, with the intent to further some purpose of the conspiracy, including but not limited to:
  - A. publishing f alse and inflammatory publ ic statements regarding Plaintiff;
  - B. not informing au thorities, the grand jury, and the court of exculpatory evidence;
  - agreeing to make false and materially incomplete statements to the Marion C ounty g rand j ury in or der t o obt ain w arrants and a n indictment;
  - D. Not pr oviding co mplete i nformation t o t he P laintiff i ncluding exculpatory evidence during the trial;
  - E. Failing to provide complete and accurate jury instructions to the grand jury and failing to maintain copies of the materials which were provided;

- F. Knowingly providing testimony of witnesses to the grand jury which they knew or with the exercise of reasonable diligence should have known was false or incomplete.
- 105. Defendants' actions evidenced a reckless and callous disregard for and deliberate indifference to Plaintiff's constitutional rights.
- 106. As a direct and proximate result of this conspiracy, Plaintiff was deprived of her rights under the Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments of the United States Constitution.
- 107. As a direct and foreseeable consequence of these deprivations, Plaintiff has suffered economic loss, physical harm, emotional trauma, loss of liberty, loss of privacy, and irreparable harm to her reputation.

WHEREFORE, P laintiff r espectfully r equests that t his C ourt award h er su ch monetary r elief as will co mpensate h er f or t he act ual d amages incurred, mental, emotional, and physical damages which she has suffered, punitive damages, and her actual attorneys fees incurred as a r esult of this lawsuit, as well as such further and other relief as this Court deems appropriate.

### **COUNT V: CONSPIRACY IN VIOLATION OF 42 U.S.C. SECTION 1985(3)**

- 108. Plaintiff hereby incorporates and restates the allegations in paragraphs 1 through 107 as if fully set forth herein.
- 109. Defendants are "persons" as that term is defined in 42 U .S.C, Section 1985.
- 110. Under color of state law, Defendants conspired and entered into express and/or i mplied ag reements, understandings, or meetings of t he minds a mong

themselves for the purpose of depriving, either directly or indirectly, the Plaintiff of the equal protection of the law an of her equal privileges and immunities under the law.

- 111. Defendants' actions evidenced a reckless and callous disregard for and deliberate indifference to Plaintiff's constitutional rights.
- 112. As a direct and proximate result of this conspiracy, Plaintiff was deprived of her rights under the Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments of the United States Constitution.
- 113. As a direct and foreseeable consequence of these deprivations, Plaintiff has suffered economic loss, physical harm, emotional trauma, loss of liberty, loss of privacy, and irreparable harm to her reputation.

WHEREFORE, P laintiff r espectfully r equests that t his C ourt award h er su ch monetary r elief as will co mpensate h er f or t he act ual d amages incurred, mental, emotional, and physical damages which she has suffered, punitive damages, and her actual attorneys fees incurred as a r esult of this lawsuit, as well as such further and other relief as this Court deems appropriate.

#### **COUNT VI: CONSPIRACY IN VIOLATION OF 42 U.S.C. SECTION 1986**

- 114. Plaintiff hereby incorporates and restates the allegations in paragraphs 1 through 113 as if fully set forth herein.
- 115. Defendants are "persons" as that term is defined in 42 U .S.C. Section 1986.
- 116. Defendants had prior knowledge of the wrongs to be committed by the other Defendants.

- 117. The D efendants had the power to prevent or aid in preventing the commission of the wrongs conspired to be committed by the other Defendants, and which by reasonable diligence, could have been prevented, but they neglected and/or refused to prevent or to aid in the prevention of the commission of the wrongs conspired to be committed by other D efendants. As a result of this conspiracy P laintiff was deprived of her rights under the Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution.
- 118. As a direct and foreseeable consequence of these deprivations, Plaintiff has suffered economic loss, physical harm, emotional trauma, loss of liberty, loss of privacy, and irreparable harm to her reputation.

WHEREFORE, P laintiff r espectfully r equests that t his C ourt award h er su ch monetary r elief as will co mpensate h er f or t he act ual d amages incurred, mental, emotional, and physical damages which she has suffered, punitive damages, and her actual attorneys fees incurred as a r esult of this lawsuit, as well as such further and other relief as this Court deems appropriate.

#### **COUNT VII: INTENTIONAL INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS**

- 119. Plaintiff hereby incorporates and restates the allegations in paragraphs 1 through 118 as if fully set forth herein.
- 120. Defendants acted i ndividually and i n co ncert t o perpetuate criminal charges against Plaintiff and to contact her clients and destroy her business.
- 121. Counsel for D efendants advised the Indiana A ttorney G eneral and the Secretary of State for Indiana that Defendants were acting outside the scope of their

jurisdiction and authority by contacting Plaintiff's clients and advising them that she was involved in criminal activity prior to any indictment by the grand jury.

- 122. Plaintiff was assured that this contact would cease, but by that time the damages had already been done and Plaintiff's business interests and reputation were destroyed.
- 123. Defendants r epeatedly m ade false, i nsulting, o ffensive, i nflammatory statements about Plaintiff calculated to shame, humiliate her and harm her reputation and business interests.
- 124. Defendants knew or sh ould hav e kn own t hrough t he ex ercise o f reasonable diligence that such statements were false.
- 125. These actions evidenced a pattern of extreme and outrageous behavior pursued with the intent to cause Plaintiff severe emotional and financial distress.
- 126. The Defendants' conduct had the direct and foreseeable consequence of marking Plaintiff as a thief and a fraud in the minds of the general public.
- 127. The Defendants' conduct h ad t he further co nsequence o f su bjecting Plaintiff to extreme public and sustained obloquy, causing her to lose job opportunities, endure insults and subjecting her to assault by the local, national, and international press.
- 128. The D efendants' conduct will continue to have deleterious effects on Plaintiff and forever be associated with the false allegations advanced by Defendants and which were repeatedly publicized.
- 129. As a direct and foreseeable consequence of these deprivations, Plaintiff has suffered economic loss, physical harm, emotional trauma, loss of liberty, loss of

privacy, and irreparable harm to her reputation.

WHEREFORE, P laintiff r espectfully r equests that t his C ourt award h er su ch monetary r elief as will co mpensate h er f or t he act ual d amages incurred, mental, emotional, and physical damages which she has suffered, punitive damages, and her actual attorneys fees incurred as a r esult of this lawsuit, as well as such further and other relief as this Court deems appropriate.

**JURY DEMAND** 

Plaintiff hereby requests a trial by jury.

Respectfully submitted,

**BLANCO WILCZYNSKI, PLLC** 

/s/Derek S. Wilczynski
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Dated: December 7, 2012